gether a different question. He will reply to you in writing.

(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I do not have the information at present. I will supply the information to the hon. Member.

Electoral Rolls in Regional Languages

*715. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of LAW,JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electoral rolls are published in all regional languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to publish the electoral rolls in all languages including Urdu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a).The electoral rolls are published in the official language of the State or the Union Territory concerned. In addition,whenever a request is made, the electoral rolls are also published in additional languages if the percentage of people speaking such languages is twenty per cent or more of the total population of that constituency or part of the constituency.

(b). A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(c). Does not arise.

STATEMENT

(Starred Question No. 715)

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Language or languages in which the electoral rolls are printed	
		Entire State/UT	Part of State UT
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Telugu	1. Telugu English & Urdu (13 A.Cs) 2. Telugu & Marathi (3 A.Cs.)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	English	NIL
3.	Assam	1. Assamese for all A. Cs with Goalpara Kamrup, Darrang, Nowgong, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Lakhirpur and Mikir Hills Districts. 2. English for Haflong (ST) A.C. in North Cachar Hills District. 3. Bengali for all A.Cs in North Cachar District	
4.	Bihar	Hindi	NIL
5.	Goa	1. English and Konkani in Roman Script. 2. Marathi & Konkani in Devnagari Script	NIL NIL

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Language or languages in which the electoral rolls are printed	
		Entire State/UT	Part of State UT
1	2	3	4
6.	Gujarat	Gujarati	NIL
7.	Haryana	Hindi	NIL
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Hindi	NIL
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1. Urdu and Hindi for 5-Udhampur P.C. (excluding Doda District) and 6- Jammu Parliamentary Constitutency (excluding Rajouri and Poonch districts.)	
		2. Urdu and Hindi for 20 A.Cs.	
		3. Urdu for all other P.Cs and A.Cs.	
10.	Karnataka	1. Kannada and Marathi for 11 A.Cs.	
		2. Kannada and English for 13 A.Cs.	
		3. Kannada for all other A.Cs.	
11.	Kerala	1. Malayalam and Kannada for 2 A. Cs.	
		2. Malayalam and Tamil for 2 A.Cs.	
		3. Malayalam and Tamil for 2 A.Cs.	

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Language or languages in which the electoral rolls are printed	
		Entire State/UT	Part of State UT
1	2	3	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Urdu and Hindi for 3 A.Cs.	
		2. Hindi for all other A.Cs.	
13.	Maharashtra	1. Marathi and English for all A.Cs in Greater Bombay District except 4. A.Cs.	
		2. Marathi, English, and Urdu for 4 A.Cs.	
		3. Marthi and Kannada for 5 A.Cs.	
		4. Marathi and Urdu for 4 A.Cs.	
		5. Marathi for all other A.Cs.	
14.	Manipur	1. English for 20 A. Cs.	
		2. Manipuri for all other A.Cs	
15.	Meghalaya	English	NIL
16.	Mizoram	English	NIL
17.	Nagaland	English	NIL
18.	Orissa	1. Oriya and Telugu for	A.Cs.

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Language or languages in which the electoral rolls are printed	
		Entire State/UT	Part of State UT
1	2	3	4
		2. Oriya for all other	A.Cs.
19.	Punjab	1. Punjabi and Hindi for 19	A.Cs.
		2. Punjabi for all other A.Cs.	
20.	Rajasthan	Hindi	NIL
21.	Sikkim	English	NIL
22.	Tamil Nadu	1. Tamil and English for all A.Cs. in Madras City	
		2. Tamil and Telugu in 2 . A. Cs.	
		3. Tamil and Malayalam for 3 A.Cs	
		4. Tamil and Malayalam for 4 A.Cs	
		5. Tamil for all other A.Cs	
23.	Tripura	Bengali	NIL
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Hindi and Urdu for 134 A. Cs.	
		2. Hindi for all other A. Cs.	

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Language or languages in which the electoral rolls are printed	
		Entire State/UT	Part of State UT
1	2	3	4
25.	West Bengal	1. Bengali and Nepali for 4 A.Cs. 2. Bengali and Hindi for 2 A.Cs. 3. English for all A.Cs in Calcutta distt. except 139-Belgachia East A.C. 4. Bengali and English for 2 A.Cs. 5. Bengali for all other A.Cs.	
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Hindi and English	NIL
27.	Chandigarh	Hindi and Punjabi	NIL
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Gujarat and Marathi	NIL
29.	Daman and Diu	English and Gujarati	NIL
30.	Delhi	Hindi, Urdu, and English	NIL
31.	Lakshadweep	1. Mahal and Malayalam for Minicoy Is. 2. Malayalam for rest of the Territory.	

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Language or languages in which the electroal rolls are printed	
		Entire State/UT	Part of State UT
1	2	3	4
32.	Pondicherry	1. Malayalam for Mahe area 2. Telugu for Yanam area 3. Tamil for rest of the Territory.	

SHRI E. AHAMED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that:

"Whenever a request is made, the electoral rolls are also published in additional languages if the percentage of people speaking such languages is twenty percent or more of the total population of that constituency or part of the constituency."

There are some assembly constituencies to my knowledge where there are twenty percent people who are speaking Urdu. But, their request was not complied with.

For example, there is one constituency in Karnataka—Gulbarga constituency. Without fear of contradiction, I could say that there are not less than fifty percent people speaking Urdu. Their repeated requests for electoral rolls in Urdu have not been considered by the authorities. May I know why the Government is measuring all these things with double standard in this matter?

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have that information with you, Mr. Minister? Or you can send it to him in writing.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with the regard to Gulbarga constituency, unfortunately, I do not have the information available with me. I can send it to the hon. Member.

SHRI E. AHMED: Will he collect the information, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: He has agreed.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, my second supplementary is...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Let is not be specific because this is a general question.

SHRI E. AHMED: Specific question also I can ask, Sir.....(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Like this, we do not go from the general to the specific.

SHRI E. AHAMED: No, Sir,this is also permitted because there is a general question put here.

MR. SPEAKER: Unfortunately, in such cases the Minister does not have the information.

SHRI E. AHAMED: I only want him to collect it and supply it to me, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Then you can have it in writing also....(*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: O.K., you ask your question.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, my second supplementary is that even in some of the constituencies where these electoral rolls are published in Urdu—for example, in Delhi only Chandni Chowk constituency is where the electoral rolls are published in Urdu- they are not printed, but they are handwritten. Why is it so, Sir ? Is there any special reason for this? There are many firms where these could be published. There are lots of such firms. Would the Government see that these Urdu electoral rolls will also be published, instead of writing them in hand?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question is a relevant question. Whether it is hand written or printed, we shall ensure that it is published in future. But normally if it is handwritten, it is in certain cases only when it is not possible to get it printed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Urdu is spoken in all the States of India. According to the statement laid by the Ministry of Law on the table of the House electoral rolls in Urdu are published only in Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh and in some districts of Maharastra. In Bihar, a large number of people speak Urdu. Not only in Patna but in other districts of Bihar a large number of people speak Urdu. In other States also a large number of Urdu speaking people are found. I would like to know from him whether he is going to publish the elec-

toral rolls in Urdu where Urdu speaking people are found?

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGLAM: Sir, I have already in the answer, very specifically pointed out that wherever the request is made and where the percentage of the Urdu speaking population is twenty per cent of the total population, in such cases, definitely it would be printed.

Shifting of Head Offices of Tea Board.

*716. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to shift the Head Offices of the Tea Board from Calcutta;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) to (e). Representations have been received from time to time suggesting shifting of the Tea Board's headquarters from Calcutta to Assam owing to the State's predominant position in the production of tea. However, Calcutta being a major commercial centre and one of the major Indian Ports has remained the centre of export activity in tea. The headquarters of a number of exporting and producing firms are located at Calcutta. Moreover, most of the tea buying for overseas markets is done at Calcutta auctions. Thus, due to the strategic position of Calcutta and other infrastructural facilities available there, it has not been found possible to shift the headquarters of the Tea Board from Calcutta to Assam.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, this apprehension about the shifting of the headquarters of the Tea Board was there widely because of certain trends of this Department to shift various activities of the Tea Board from Calcutta to other places from time to time. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether certain sections of the functioning of this Board have been shifted from Calcutta during the last few years. If so, which are all those activities which have shifted, how many people have been shifted from there and what are the reasons. As the centralised functioning was doing well, what was the reason for shifting those activities from Calcutta to other places?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: No activity of the Tea Board has been shifted as such from Calcutta to any other place. And I have categorically stated in the answer and allayed the apprehensions expressed to me in Calcutta that there is no proposal what soever to shift the headquarters of the Tea Board from Calcutta to any other place. What has happened is that we have set up regional offices in Gauahati and Coonoor. These regional offices are now headed by Chief Regional Executives to whom powers have been delegated so that many of the problems of the small growers can be dealt with at a de-centralised level. No activity as such of the Tea Board has been shifted out of Calcutta.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: I am told that seven activities like tea plantation scheme, tea unit finance, tea machinery and irrigation equipment, etc. have already been shifted. But the hon. Minister says that it has not been done. Any way, I asked the question: whether the Government have received any representation in this regard to stop that shifting. And the reply is different. It says that the representations that have been received are in favour of shifting. Then I asked: What is the action Government has taken on that?